

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2583**  
**OFFERED BY MR. KEATING**

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

**1 TITLE VIII—CONFLICT PREVEN-**  
**2 TION, RISK ASSESSMENT, AND**  
**3 MITIGATION**

**4 SEC. . CONFLICT PREVENTION WORKING GROUP.**

**5 (a) FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following find-  
**6 ings:**

**7 (1)** Diplomacy, including mediation, support to  
**8 civil society, governance and democracy programs,**  
**9 strategic communications, sanctions or the threat**  
**10 thereof, and other forms of international pressure**  
**11 are essential for conflict prevention.**

**12 (2)** Preventing conflict is a key diplomatic ob-  
**13 jective of the United States.**

**14 (3)** Critical to conflict prevention are assess-  
**15 ments to track potential conflicts and plan responses**  
**16 appropriately.**

**17 (4)** Although the United States Government  
**18 contains the analytic capabilities to track conflict,**

1       there is no mechanism to coordinate analysis and en-  
2       sure a coordinated response to potential conflicts.

3           (5) An integrated mechanism nested at the Na-  
4       tional Security Council would help facilitate a com-  
5       prehensive approach towards conflict prevention.

6       (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERAGENCY CONFLICT  
7       PREVENTION WORKING GROUP.—The President shall es-  
8       tablish an Interagency Conflict Prevention Working Group  
9       with the following responsibilities:

10           (1) Advise the President on conflict prevention  
11       functions.

12           (2) Coordinate and synchronize the crisis pre-  
13       vention activities of the agencies specified in sub-  
14       section (d), particularly the agencies of the Depart-  
15       ment of Defense, the Department of State, and the  
16       United States Agency for International Development  
17       (USAID).

18           (3) Integrate the early-warning systems of na-  
19       tional security agencies, including intelligence agen-  
20       cies, with respect to conflict and coordinate the pol-  
21       icy response to such conflicts.

22           (4) Conduct gaming and contingency planning  
23       exercises regarding crisis prevention.

1 (5) Identify available resources and policy op-  
2 tions necessary to prevent the emergence or esca-  
3 lation of violent conflict.

4 (c) LEADERSHIP.—The Working Group shall be  
5 headed by a senior director selected by the President, and  
6 who shall report to the Assistant to the President for Na-  
7 tional Security Affairs (commonly referred to as the Na-  
8 tional Security Advisor).

9 (d) COMPOSITION.—The Working Group shall be  
10 composed of representatives from the following agencies,  
11 and such others as the President determines appropriate:

12 (1) The Department of Defense.

13 (2) USAID.

14 (3) The Department of State.

15 (4) The Department of Justice.

16 (5) The Department of the Treasury.

17 **SEC. . REGIONAL CONFLICT RISK ASSESSMENT AND**  
18 **CONFLICT MITIGATION STRATEGY.**

19 (a) FINDINGS.—

20 (1) Armed conflict and civil strife often stem  
21 from dynamics that transcend traditional state bor-  
22 ders and require cross-border and regional ap-  
23 proaches.

24 (2) United States diplomacy is often conducted  
25 on a bilateral, state-centric basis that fails to ad-

1       dress problems comprehensively or to identify and  
2       assess the full range of issues and opportunities.

3               (3) A comprehensive approach towards conflict  
4       prevention is required, incorporating cross border  
5       and regional dynamics and non-state actors.

6       (b) CONFLICT ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary, acting  
7       through the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democ-  
8       racy, and Human Rights, shall be responsible for ensuring  
9       that an annual regional conflict-risk assessment is con-  
10      ducted for each geographic region represented by an As-  
11      sistant Secretary. Each assessment shall include the fol-  
12      lowing:

13              (1) An identification of ongoing violent conflicts  
14      in the region.

15              (2) An evaluation of the potential for outbreaks  
16      of violent conflict in the region.

17              (3) A list of those conflicts determined to be at  
18      high risk of outbreak or escalation.

19              (4) A description of new opportunities and chal-  
20      lenges for conflict mitigation in the region.

21       (c) CONFLICT MITIGATION STRATEGY.—For each  
22      area identified in subsection (b)(3), the relevant office or  
23      diplomatic or consular post of the Department of State  
24      shall develop a conflict mitigation strategy. Such strategy  
25      shall include the following elements:

1 (1) An analysis of the key drivers of potential  
2 conflict.

3 (2) An analysis of the impact of current United  
4 States policies and programs on the drivers referred  
5 to in paragraph (1).

6 (3) Specific objectives in mitigating conflict for  
7 the next 12-month period, including indicators and  
8 other measurements of progress.

9 (4) A description of policies and programs  
10 needed to achieve the objectives identified in para-  
11 graph (3).

12 (5) A description of how such policies and pro-  
13 grams will be coordinated with the policies and pro-  
14 grams of local partners and the international com-  
15 munity.

16 (6) A description of the roles of each Federal  
17 agency in carrying out the conflict mitigation strat-  
18 egy, and the mechanisms for interagency coordina-  
19 tion.

20 (7) The requirements for human and financial  
21 resources to carry out the conflict mitigation strat-  
22 egy over the next 12-month period.

23 (d) CONSULTATION.—In preparing each conflict miti-  
24 gation strategy required under subsection (c), the relevant  
25 office or diplomatic or consular post of the Department

1 of State shall consult with a wide range of local stake-  
2 holders.

3 (f) TRANSMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Each conflict  
4 mitigation strategy required under subsection (c) shall be  
5 transmitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

